

Evaluation

- Many reasons to evaluate:
 1. Identify program strengths and weaknesses
 2. Measuring progress
 3. Identify possible improvements
 4. Decision-making on what changes to implement
 5. Measuring program effectiveness and impact
 6. Measuring efficiency
 7. Benchmarks – what works/what doesn't

Engineering

- Road Safety Audits (Traffic Safety Evaluations)
 - “A formal safety examination of an existing or future road or intersection by an independent multidisciplinary team.” (FHWA)
 - WHY? Review road characteristics to prevent crashes.
 - Stark, Bottineau, Barnes

Traffic Safety Evaluations: Bottineau County

Issue brief: Fall 2011



The economic and health-related impacts of crashes remain an important focus area for improving the transportation system. According to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) there are nearly 40,000 crash related fatalities every year, with an additional 3 million injuries.

Traffic Safety Evaluations

Traffic Safety Evaluations (TSEs), commonly referred to as Road Safety Audits (RSAs), are a tool used to assess the safety performance of a roadway facility. A TSE generally takes a proactive approach to addressing safety concerns, and can be done at any stage of a project from planning and design to existing facilities.

Enforcement

- “Using Laws, Enforcement, and Sanctions to Increase Seat Belt Use on Rural Roads”
 - Analyzed information from 32 states
 - High citation rates lead to higher seat belt use
 - Less likely to be belted if fines \$20 or less
 - Primary seat belt enforcement related to increased probability for seat belt use
 - Drivers in secondary states much more likely to be belted in states with high enforcement activity



Education

- Analysis of Alive at 25 program to assess efficacy of program
 - Compared teens who participated in the program to teens who had not participated
 - Results showed that teens who had not completed Alive at 25 were nearly 4 times more likely to be involved in a subsequent crash than teens who had completed the course.



EMS

- Current research focusing on traffic crash response times in rural areas
- Other areas:
 - Route access and awareness
 - Access control
 - Transportation of special equipment and supplies

